



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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CAMPAIGN '98: BARRALES HAS AN UPHILL FIGHT AGAINST CONNELL TO BECOME CA'S CONTROLLER.

Editor's note: Here's our first update on the State Controller's contest since the primary, where Demo Kathleen Connell got 59.5% of the vote vs. 32.7% for San Mateo Co. Sup. Ruben Barrales(R). Here's our late summer analysis...

...Even though incumbent Connell enjoys a healthy **54% vs. 27%** lead over Barrales in the current S.F. Examiner poll (July 26-28 among 832 likely voters, conducted by Mason/Dixon Political/Media Research), her campaign continues to regard Barrales as a serious contender. As a Connell source told Calpeek, "His ability to hurt Kathleen depends on resources, especially if the Calif. Republican Party decides to dump in resources at the last moment. Right now Barrales does not have much money or visibility, but we're staying alert." A very savvy decision...

...The reason Connell will stay alert is due to a potential *cross-over* from large numbers of Latinos who are Demos. Even though Connell did well among Latinos in the primary, if Barrales gets the resources, she'll have to be very careful in the general. And remember: Barrales is a moderate GOPer, not a hardliner...

...In terms of warchest (cash on hand), there's no contest at this point. Connell still has just over \$1 million, while Barrales has about \$36,000. During the primary he raised \$278,272. But unless Barrales can demonstrate that he can raise serious money, the CRP and other GOP fat cats may concentrate on other contests where the odds are better. In the primary, Connell won all 58 counties and was the leading vote-getter among all GOP & Demo candidates. She even won San Mateo Co. with 61% of the vote...

...Despite what seems like good news for Connell, she continues to receive *bad press*, especially in Sacto. Example: her lawsuit over a law prohibiting campaign contributions from companies who do business with CalPERS was not well timed. And Connell is one of Sacto BEE columnist Dan Walter's favorite targets...

...FYI: Connell's campaign has gone to court to challenge Barrales' ballot title of businessman/county supervisor. It's the businessman portion that's under attack. Connell's campaign has checked Barrales' San Mateo Co. and Calif. statement of economic interest and the for last 5 years Barrales has **not** listed any business or outside income. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: The S.F. Examiner just published some *new survey data* on 4 of the 7 initiatives on the Nov. 3rd ballot. The poll of 832 likely voters was taken between July 26-28. The pollster was Mason/Dixon Political/Media Research...

☑ **Prop. #5** - This is the Calif. Tribal Gaming Initiative and it is ahead in the current poll by a **53%** to **31%** margin, with **16%** undecided. This is the only initiative on the Nov. 3rd ballot where both sides are currently spending bid bucks on paid media, particularly tv. Through June 30th, the YES on 5 side had raised \$24.6 million vs. \$930,000 for the NO side. And 97% of the \$930,000 comes from Las Vegas interests...

...FYI: The newest NO on 5 tv ad (which we call *Coming to Your Neighborhood*) shows a couple walking along a street when up pops a neon sign promoting a new casino. The ad says this can happen if 2 politicians allow it. This latest claim against Prop. 5 is a real stretch! The 1988 Indian Gaming Act does allow tribes to acquire more land, but the procedure is very

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complex and is weighed against any add-ons. It's so tough that Indians in other states tried to challenge this part of the law in court and they lost. The law requires: 1) approval by the U.S. Govt.; 2) approval of the governor & Interior Secretary; and 3) the Interior Secretary has to make a "specific finding" (subject to federal court review) which shows the add-on land for gaming would not be harmful to the community. To date, no add-on land for gaming has been approved in any State where there was not complete agreement by all the parties...

☒ **Prop. #8** - This is Gov. Pete Wilson's Education Initiative, which we covered in last week's newsletter. At this point, YES on #8 has a commanding lead of **71%** in favor vs. **13%** opposed, with **16%** undecided. But it's our guess the YES side's margin will begin to decline once the NO side begins pounding away with tv ads...

☒ **Prop. #9** - This is the Electric Utility/anti-nuclear power initiative. It currently enjoys a lead of **57%** in favor vs. **19%** opposed, with **24%** undecided. It is anticipated that the utility industry will ante up big bucks to defeat this measure. FYI: NO on 9 campaign spending report shows \$819,105 raised, with \$71,041 cash-on-hand. No report yet from the YES on 9 campaign...

☒ **Prop. #10** - The Calif. Children & Families Initiative doesn't have the commanding lead one might expect. This is the initiative which calls for a 50-cent hike in the tobacco tax, with the money going for a variety of early childhood development & health programs. At the current time, YES on #10 has a **54%** vs. **32%** lead, with **14%** undecided. One reason why the YES side may not have a commanding lead is due to a national tv campaign aimed at stopping Congress from passing a new tobacco tax. This campaign may be having a spill-over impact here in Calif. That's just a guess, but we've seen this tv campaign for what seems like many weeks. FYI: the NO on 10 campaign spending report shows \$677,489 raised, with \$403,012 cash-on-hand. Stay tuned...

SOME INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALPEEK.

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CAMPAIGN '98: NEW POLLING NUMBERS AND FUNDING REPORTS FOR CALIF. STATEWIDE CANDIDATES.

Editor's note: In this update we'll list the new polling data from the S.F. Examiner (832 likely voters, July 26-28, conducted by Mason/Dixon) and we'll show the cash-on-hand position of the down-ballot candidates through June 30th. FYI: The SFEx poll did **not** use ballot titles. Candidates were IDed by political party...

◆ **Governor** - The polling data shows Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) with a 9-pt. lead over AG Dan Lungren(R): Davis **48%** vs. Lungren at **39%**. In the fundraising reports, Lungren has c-o-h of \$3.3 million, with a debt of \$269,302. Davis' c-o-h is \$4.5 million, with a debt of \$243,484. FYI: President Bill Clinton will headline a major fundraiser lunch for Davis on Aug. 11th at the St. Francis Hotel, S.F. Later that evening there's a second big Clinton/Davis private fundraiser in L.A...

◆ **Lt. Governor** - Assemblyman Cruz Bustamante (D) leads State Sen. Tim Leslie(R) by a **41%** vs. **29%** margin, with **30%** undecided. Bustamante's campaign has \$382,573 c-o-h, with debts of \$39,802. Leslie's c-o-h position is \$45,018, but he has no debts...

◆ **Attorney General** - The new SFEx poll shows Chief Dep. AG Dave Stirling(R) and Demo State Sen. Bill Lockyer almost dead even, with Stirling slightly in front: **37%** to **35%**, with **28%** undecided. A late June survey (750 likely voters) by The Mellman Group (Lockyer was a piggyback) showed Lockyer with a 34% to 21% lead. In terms of fundraising, Stirling has c-o-h of \$42,742, with debts of \$60,322. Lockyer has 2 committees: the combined c-o-h is \$682,314, with debts of \$26,036...

...FYI: Sources say Stirling is appealing a 3rd Court of Appeal decision on his ballot title. Stirling wants to use Chief Deputy Attorney General. The court ruled he could only use 3 words and in the primary he settled for Deputy Attorney General. In the endorsement game, Stirling has picked up 17 county DAs. Most of the DAs were with Mike Capizzi in the primary. Among the 17 are Ed Jagels of Kern Co., Jan Scully of Sacto and Grover Trask of Riverside. Former L.A. DA Robert Philibosian also endorsed Stirling. Stirling also has backing from 38 County Sheriffs, including Glen Craig of Sacto, Bill Kolender of San Diego and Orange Co. sheriff-elect Mike Carona...

◆ **Treasurer** - In the battle to replace Matt Fong, the race is almost dead even in the new SFEx poll: Phil Angelides(D) is at **32%** vs. **30%** for Assemblyman Curt Pringle(R), with **38%** undecided. But Angelides is way ahead of Pringle in the warchest department. Angelides spent very little in the primary, while Pringle had a tough primary. Angelides' c-o-h is \$1,039,121, with debts of \$98,039. Pringle's c-o-h is \$88,195, with debts of \$190,466...

◆ **Secretary of State** - The new SFEx poll is very different than the recent poll released by Fairbank Maslin Maullin for their client, Demo Michela Alioto. The FMM poll shows incumbent Bill Jones(R) and Alioto dead even at **29%** each. The new SFEx poll shows Jones with a 15-pt. lead: Jones **46%** vs. Alioto **31%**, with **23%** undecided. In fundraising, Jones has c-o-h of \$141,257, with a debt of \$52,165. Alioto has c-o-h of \$120,500, with a debt of \$172,700...

◆ **Insurance Commissioner** - Incumbent Chuck Quackenbush(R) enjoys a 17-pt. lead in the new SFEx poll: Quackenbush **43%** vs. Diane Martinez(D) with **26%**. **31%** are undecided. In fundraising, Quackenbush's c-o-h is \$34,395, with no debts. Martinez's c-o-h is only \$2,438 and she has a debt of \$13,000. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: SAN DIEGO COUNCIL VOTES TO PUT PADRE BASEBALL STADIUM DEAL ON THE BALLOT.

Editor's note: The San Diego Council voted unanimously Aug. 4th to put an initiative on the Nov. 3 ballot for a proposed **\$411 million** baseball stadium for the National League's *San Diego Padres*. Here's our very brief update & analysis about **public funding of sports facilities**...

...The deal almost fell apart two weeks ago, but Mayor Susan Golding and Padres President Larry Lucchino put the agreement back on track. The deal, in the form of a memorandum of understanding(MOU), essentially has the city putting up 70% of the funding. In raw numbers, the city's portion comes to \$225 million, while the Padres will put up \$115 million. In addition, the city's downtown redevelopment agency will put in another \$50 million and the Port District another \$21 million. FYI: the Padres have the naming rights to the stadium. Should they sell the rights for \$35 million,

that means their part of the deal is only \$80 million -- not \$115 million...

...The basic funding would be done with lease-revenue bonds, repaid with interest over a 22-30 year period. According to the San Diego Union Tribune, the debt service payments comes to \$20.7 million per year -- so the actual cost of \$411 million will be more to the tune of **\$621 million**. Repayment of the bonds would come from the city's hotel/room tax. And here's where the numbers get a little fuzzy. Sources say the bond repayment is based on the assumption that tourism will increase 10% annually over the next 20 years. But what if there is a recession or some other negative event? If that were to occur, would the city's general fund be at risk???

...Bottomline: some **Calpeek** sources now believe there will be serious opposition to this measure. The opposition may not have the funding of the proponents, but look what happened in San Francisco last year with the 49er football stadium deal? With few resources, the opposition nearly won. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on various Calif. U.S. House contests...

☒ **Campaign Reform** - The U.S. House voted 237 to 186 on Aug. 3rd and passed HR2183, a bipartisan campaign finance reform bill which would ban "soft money" being funneled into campaigns by political parties. In the Calif. congressional delegation, all the Demos voted **YES** along with GOPers Campbell, Horn, Gallegly and Bilbray --- while the rest of the GOP delegation voted **NO**. A smart move by U.S. Rep. Brian Bilbray(R-San Diego) who faces a tough challenge from San Diego Councilwoman Christine Kehoe(D)...

...27th CD Demo challenger Barry Gordon bashed freshman U.S. Rep. James Rogan(R-Glendale), saying Rogan only paid lip service to campaign reform...

☒ **10th CD** - A small sample survey (300 likely voters) for GOP challenger Charles Ball shows him trailing freshman Demo U.S. Rep. Ellen Tauscher by a **47%** vs. **25%** margin, with **28%** undecided. The poll was done by Public Opinion Strategies. Tauscher's reelection number in this poll was 42%. FYI: in the pri-

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mary, Tauscher won 99% of all the precincts in the 10th by more than 50% (that's 660 out of 666 precincts)...

☒ **GOTV Maven Hired by DCCC** - Demo consultant Sue Burnside has been hired by the DCCC to oversee field ops/GOTV in 8 CDs. They include: 1st CD (Thompson); 3rd CD (Dunn); 22nd CD (Capps); 24th CD (Sherman); 27th CD (Gordon); 36th CD (Hahn); 42nd CD (Brown); and 46th CD (Sanchez)...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ **Who Won the 1st Debate?** - In the first of five Calif. gubernatorial debates, AG Dan Lungren(R) was the clear winner on style & aggressiveness, especially if you listened to the debate on radio. Some sources thought he was a little *too aggressive*. If you saw it on tv (live or tape delayed), Lungren looked like Albert Brooks in the movie *Broadcast News*, with flop sweat pouring off his face and drenching his collar. Why his staff didn't give him a handkerchief (a towel would have been better) is unclear -- but it won't happen again in Fresno on Aug. 18th. As for LG Gray Davis(D), he needs political viagra to put more pep into his delivery. But on substance he was on solid ground. As for the allegation by Lungren that Davis voted against the death penalty while in the Assembly -- GOP sources tell **Calpeek** that those votes were on procedural motions to pull death penalty bills out of the liberal dominated Criminal Justice Cmt. When Willie Brown was Speaker, if you were a Demo, you voted with the Caucus against such motions, which Davis did. So that's not a vote against a death penalty bill per se...

■ **L.A. Co. Sheriff's Update** - Incumbent L.A. Co. Sheriff Sherman Block and challenger Lee Baca will meet in at least 3 debates which have now been set. The first debate will air Aug. 12th on KCRW-FM Radio's *Which Way L.A.?* (1-2 p.m.). Century Cable TV will tape a debate Aug. 28th and KCET-TV's *Life & Times* will host a debate on Oct. 30th. TV stations KNBC(4) and KCBS(2) also may host debates, but that is not a done deal - yet. FYI: political consultant Steve Afriat has been hired by the Baca campaign to handle

fundraising. Baca's primary election fundraisers, Brian Rix & Pat Bradford, resigned from the Baca campaign and now work for Block...

■ **U.S. Senate Update** - The new poll in the S.F. Examiner (by Mason/Dixon, 832 likely voters) shows the race between U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D) and Treasurer Matt Fong(R) to be very close. Boxer is at 43% vs. 40% for Fong. The margin of error is 3.5%. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● ACLU Exec. Director Ramona Ripston of L.A. has been appointed to the Commission on Judicial Performance by Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa...

● Kevin Craven has been hired as an associate in the Irvine office of Nelson Communications Group. He had been with Manning Selvage & Lee...

● Craig Benedetto has joined the San Diego office of Stoorza, Ziegus & Metzger as a vp of public affairs...

● Matt Taggart, who was a press asst. to Gov. Wilson, has joined the Sacto office of Stoorza, Ziegus et al as an AE. And Mitch Zak, who has been on Gov. Wilson's campaign payroll, also joins SZM as a cmp. manager for Prop. 8...

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